

## AMERICANS AND SPANISH MEET.

Eat Together and Become  
Friendly.

## VERY DIFFICULT TASK

The French Papers Comment on the Instructions Given.

DEMAND OF THE UNITED STATES.

The Assertion Made That McKinley  
Insists on the Cession of the Island  
of Luzon, a Liberal Govern-  
ment for the Other Islands,  
and Favored Commer-  
cial Privileges.

PARIS, Sept. 29.—The United States Peace Commission held another session this morning, after which, accompanied by the United States Ambassador, General Horace Porter, they drove to the Foreign Office, where the commissioners met and breakfasted with the Spanish commissioners.

In addition to the commissioners and the Ambassadors, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. Delcasse, had invited the three head officials of the French Foreign office, the first secretaries of the embassies and General Hegron, secretary of the Elysee Palace.

**AN INFORMAL AFFAIR.**

The breakfast was purely informal given by M. Delcasse in his private apartments at the Foreign Office. The Spanish commissioners arrived first, accompanied by the Spanish Ambassador here, followed by the British Ambassador, and then by the French Ambassador, who was accompanied by the Spanish Ambassador here.

Senior Leon y Castillo, and the secretary of the Spanish embassy. The United States Ambassador, General Horace Porter, and Henri Vignaud, the secretary of the United States embassy, arrived at the Foreign Office before the American commissioners, and awaited them there. The American party arrived on the stroke of 12.30, the hour fixed. They were received in a private salon above M. Delcasse's official quarters.

The minister met with the American in turn and then presented them to the Premier, M. Brisson. Simultaneously Senor Castillo stepped forward to greet General Porter, whereupon the two groups moved together, and introductions to each other were effected by M. Delcasse. After Senor Castillo and General Porter had a brief chat, the party repaired to the breakfast room, where M. Delcasse presided in the centre of a long table.

ATE EIGHTY MINUTES.

On his right were General Porter and Senator Gray, with a Spanish commissioner between them. On the left of M. DeCasse was the president of the Spanish commission, Senor Montero Rios, with Senator Davis next to him and a Spanish commissioner on the left of the Senator. On the opposite side, facing M. DeCasse, was M. Brisson. On his right were Senor Leon y Castillo, Senator Fry and a Spanish commissioner; on the left of the Premier were Judge Day, president of the American commission, a Spanish commissioner and Mr. Whiting, Reid.

Beyond these, on either side, were the secretaries of the United States and Spanish Embassies and the French Foreign Office officials. The breakfast, or luncheon, as it would be termed in the United States, occupied eighty minutes. Coffee and cigars were served in an adjoining apartment, and after half an hour's further chatting the party broke up, both commissions leaving simultaneously with the courteous adios.

The Americans regard the function as having been a happy means of making the two sets of commissioners acquainted with each other. It was planned with great tact by the French and was conducted with the utmost discretion.

**FRENCH PAPERS GLOOMY.**

The French papers continue to comment upon the difficulties which the two commissions have to face by reason of their divergent instructions, beyond

GH Blas says: "The Spanish government has given its commission very precise instructions. They are to do their utmost to have it admitted that there can be no question of disputing the rights of Spanish sovereignty over Manila, the Island of Luzon and the rest of the archipelago outside of the naval stations, which Spain will cede at the Marianne Islands. "On the other side the American commission before leaving President McKinley received from him very precise instructions, which the commissioners can

not depart from.  
**McKINLEY'S INSTRUCTIONS.**  
 "The following is the text of their instructions:  
 "First. Spain cedes absolute sovereignty over the whole of the island of Luzon.  
 "Second. The other islands of the archipelago will be replaced under the dominion of Spain on condition that a liberal government is accorded to the inhabitants.  
 "Third. Complete separation of church and state in the Philippines.  
 "Fourth. Spain cannot cede any other

"Fifth. The United States shall enjoy for all time the same commercial privileges as the most favored nations, not excepting Spain herself."

The Gil Blas concludes with remarking: "It is, therefore, to be feared that for unhappy Spain the negotiations which open the first of October will give no satisfaction."

**Reward for Train Robbers.**  
DENVER, COL., Sept. 29.—Officials of the Denver and Rio Grande railroad and of the Denver and Rio Grande Express Company are receiving congratulations to-day on the successful resistance to an attempted robbery of the Western express train near Husted, Col., last night by four or five masked men. Engineer Henry S. Hinman, Fireman Frank H. Bennett, Conductor O. B. Craft, Train Porter Harry Hart and the brakemen

are the men who put the robbers to flight.

Express Messenger Esherwood, formerly a cowboy, stuck to his post while dynamite was being exploded underneath and on top of the car, and fired on the robbers. A reward of \$300 has been offered for each of the men captured. It is possible with a bloodhound is on their trail.

**Santiago Situation Improving.**

WASHINGTON, September 23.—News that occurred to-day among the American troops at Santiago, General Lawton's report is about the same as yesterday, but in the opinion of War Department medical officers the situation at Santiago is improving.